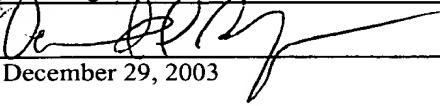


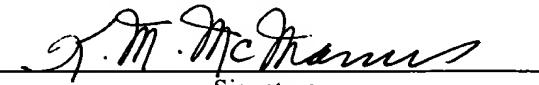


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| TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | | Application Number | 09/732,928 | |
| | | Filing Date | December 11, 2000 | |
| | | First Named Inventor | Nobuo SHIMAZU et al. | |
| | | Group Art Unit | 2881 | |
| | | Examiner Name | J. Hughes | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | | 8 | Attorney Docket Number | 740107-136 |

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| Firm or Individual name | David S. Safran, Reg. No. 27,997 Nixon Peabody LLP 401 9 th Street, N.W. Suite 900 Washington D.C. 20004 |
| Signature |  |
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